

Having carefully read this little Book, I can recommend it to all learning the French language, as not only generally useful, but as the best assistance to obtain a speedy knowledge of the Genders, always considered one of the most difficult parts of the French language.

J. FRONTEAU,  
*Professor.*

MCGILL COLLEGE,  
Sept. 23, 1859.

THE

# FRENCH GENDERS

TAUGHT IN

## SIX FABLES:

BEING A

PLAIN AND EASY

### ART OF MEMORY,

BY WHICH THE GENDERS OF

15,548

## *FRENCH NOUNS*

MAY BE LEARNED IN A FEW HOURS.

---

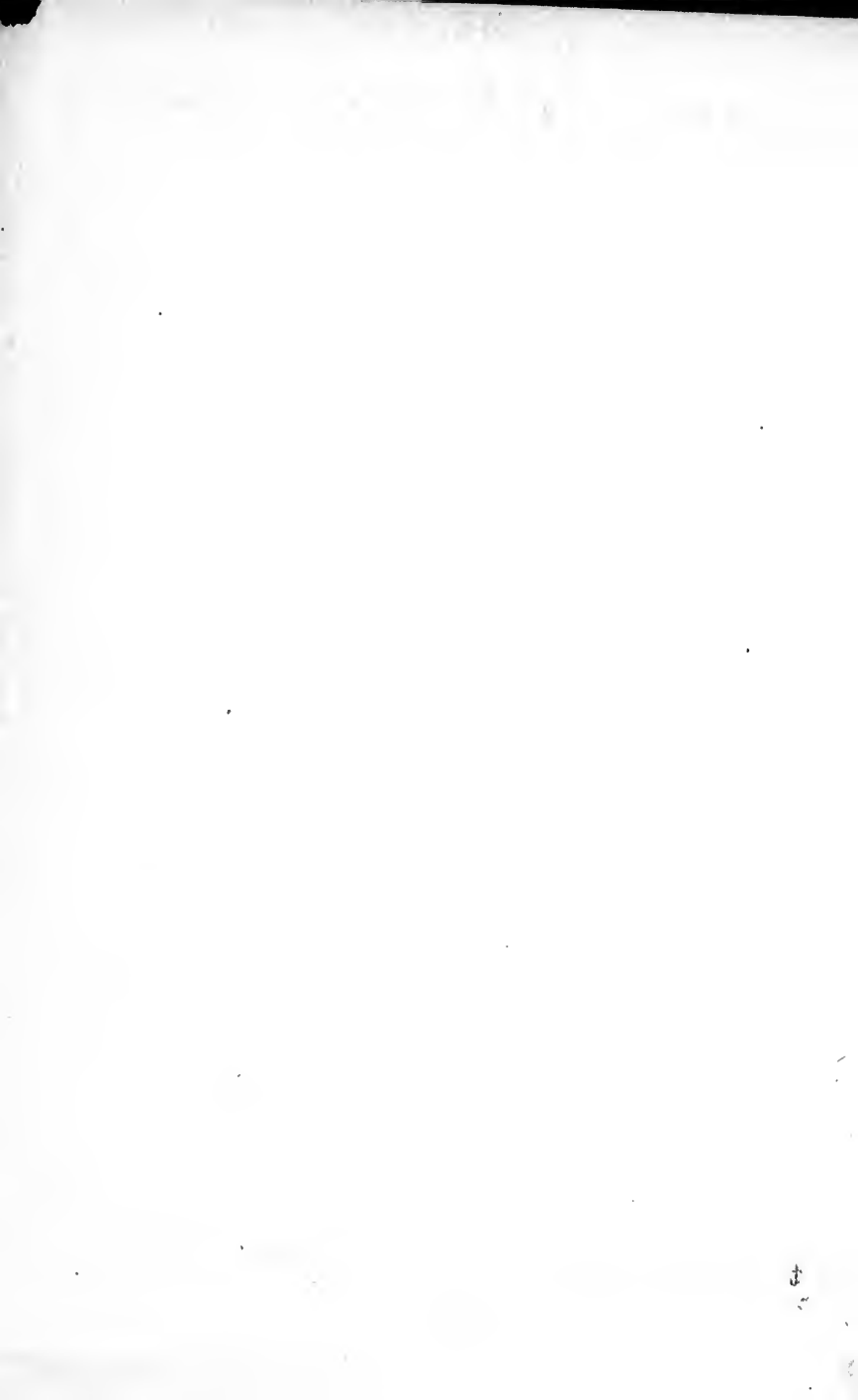
RE-PRINTED BY MRS. BLACKWOOD.

---

MONTREAL:

PRINTED BY JOHN LOVELL, ST. NICHOLAS STREET.

1859.



## PREFACE.

---

IN the publication of this work I am influenced by a thorough conviction of its utility. Its object is to remove the greatest obstacle to the acquirement of the French language; by fixing indelibly in the memory, the *genders of the French nouns*; without a perfect knowledge of which, it is impossible to speak that language with even tolerable propriety.

French is now learned by almost every class, and its importance duly appreciated. It is a species of universal passport. I am persuaded therefore, that this little book will prove generally acceptable; as by a plain and easy method, it leads the learner over the most difficult step in this useful and elegant acquirement. The most striking difference between the English and French languages consists in the genders of their nouns. In English, we call a male by the masculine term *he*; a female, by the feminine term *she*; and anything inanimate by the neuter term *it*. The French likewise

call a male *he*, and a female *she*, as we do; but by a fault in the genius of their language, they have no neuter, but call every inanimate thing either *he* or *she*, making it masculine or feminine; and hence arises the difficulty. A child learning French can see no reason why a *chair* or a *table* should be called *she*, or why a *hinge* or a *nail* should be called *he*; these things are neither males nor females, and it therefore appears strange to the learner that they should be classed as masculines and feminines; but they are so classed, and must be learned correctly. To accomplish this is a very great difficulty to all persons learning French; it is extremely troublesome to pupils even of the quickest talents and most retentive memory, who learn from the French grammars now in use. Though some of them are extremely well arranged for grammatical instruction in other respects, in regard to the *genders* they are entirely destitute of any contrivance to assist the memory, while the almost endless lists of rules and exceptions are fit only to harass and discourage learners of even the readiest abilities. So impracticable are these rules, that I have known masters to recommend their pupils to go completely through the French dictionary, and copy out all the nouns, prefixing the gen-

der to each,—a labor of weeks; and I much question whether a twentieth part of them would by that method be fixed in the mind, unless the copying were many times repeated; and, after all the trouble and consumption of time, the pupil, being without any *certain rules*, would seldom feel an absolute confidence in the correctness of his memory.

To obviate the necessity of this disheartening labour on the one hand, or recurrence to a confused labyrinth of insufficient rules on the other, the learner is here furnished with a plain “*Art of Memory*,” from which I am convinced that the genders of all the French nouns may be learned in a few hours, and learned so as never to be forgotten. I feel the more confident on this point, as a French teacher of great experience who has taught French in England during the last 42 years, assured me that many natives of France would derive great benefit from this book, in fixing the genders in the memory. I offer it, therefore, to the public in general, and to teachers in particular, with a certainty that it will fully answer the purpose desired; and by putting within the reach of all, what has hitherto been scarcely attainable by any, it will be found equally beneficial to the teacher, the pupil, and the adult.

Knowledge and learning cannot be acquired without exertion ; those who aspire to possess these distinctions, must prove by industry and perseverance that they deserve them ; but much may be done to assist the memory by art and method, and it is the duty of every teacher to render the path of improvement as smooth as possible.

M. BLACKWOOD,  
*Beaver Hall, No. 16.*

Montreal, 7 *Sept.*, 1859.

## INTRODUCTION.

---

THE system by which the genders of the French nouns may be most readily and firmly fixed in the memory, begins by classing them by their final syllables. Thus there are 643 nouns ending in *er*, which are all masculine except two: there are 144 ending in *oir*, all masculine without a single exception: 70 in *al*, 24 in *ais*, and 83 in *ard*, all masculine without exception: and 305 in *et*, all masculine except one word. Therefore, if these six endings can be fixed in the memory, as *masculines*, the learner will know the genders of 1269 nouns.

But the difficulty is to remember long lists of terminations, and to fix in the mind the gender of each. There are many grammars where whole pages are filled with terminations and exceptions; but they contain nothing to assist the memory,—no



clue by which the ending is connected to its own particular gender. Those who learn from these books may perhaps remember that all nouns ending in *ais* are of the *same* gender ; but there being no guide or catchword to assign *ais* to the masculines, they must be continually in doubt.

My plan to help the memory is this : I have introduced the masculine endings in three *Fables*, the actors in which fables are masculine. Every noun in these three fables is masculine ; and no nouns are admitted into them but such as give the rules. Thus the endings mentioned above are given in the first four lines of the first fable, which a pupil can easily learn in half an hour, and thus acquire the genders of five thousand seven hundred and ten French nouns.

### LE CHEVAL ET LE SANGLIER.

Un *sanglier* fier de son *pouvoir*,  
 Prenant le *frais* dans un *bosquet*,  
 Rencontra un beau soir  
 Par *hazard* un bidet.

Here the word *cheval* will fix the nouns in *al* ; *sanglier*, those in *er* ; and so of the

rest. Having learned these fables by heart, perfectly, which, as they are only three in number, may be accomplished in a very few hours, the pupil, when he meets with a noun ending like any one of those nouns given in the fables, will easily ascertain the gender by recurring to the guiding word: for instance, if he wants to use a word ending in *ais* or in *ard*, he will immediately call to mind the words *frais* or *hazard*, and, remembering that those nouns occur in the fable with *masculine actors*, viz. *a wild boar, a horse, and a man*, he will decide at once and with confidence that *ais* and *ard* are masculine terminations, and that the word he wants is masculine. The feminine endings, being introduced in three fables having a female speaker in each of them, and every noun in them feminine, will be fixed in the memory in the same manner. The exceptions, which are not very numerous, must be learned by heart. The pupil must remember that the NOUNS ONLY give the rule; they are printed in italics to be more readily observed: but of course a person learning French cannot be so ignorant of grammar as to find any difficulty in distinguishing the substantives from the other parts of speech.

In the perusal of these fables I trust that the reader will remember, that, as the plan required a certain number of endings to be introduced with connection in a fable, all the masculines being in one place and all the feminines in another, there could be little choice as to words and phrases. This ought to disarm all criticism against the construction of the lines and sentences.

For the peculiarity and oddity of some of the lines, I shall make no apology, as the practice of Von Feinagle in his admirable "Art of Memory," and the experience of all who have formed systems to aid the memory, agree in proving that eccentric, quaint, or, as they may be called, *out-of-the-way expressions*, are much more easily fixed in the recollections than sentences unmarked by any peculiarity.

---

### FIRST MASCULINE FABLE.

*Which gives the gender of 5710 Nouns.*

---

#### LE CHEVAL ET LE SANGLIER.

Un *sanglier* (1) fier de son *pouvoir*, (2)  
 Prenant le *frais* (3) dans un *bosquet*, (4)  
 Rencontra un beau soir,  
 Par *hazard* (5) un *bidet*.

Ho ! *maraud*, (6) dit-il en *furieux*, (7)  
 Qui te rend si audacieux ?  
 Que fais-tu ici *malotru* ? (8)  
 Oh *rien* ! (9) Rien dis-tu !  
 Je suis le *roi* (10) et le *maître* (11) ici,  
 Pardi !  
 De *Juin* (12) à *Mai*, (13) de Mercredi à  
*Mardi* : (14)  
 Et si dès *l'instant*, (15) sans dire *mot*, (16)  
 Tu ne tournes pas le *dos*, (17)  
*Fat* ! (18) je te mangerai comme un gigot.  
 Le *cheval* (19) en ce *cas*, (20)  
 Retourna sur ses pas ;  
 Vite, comme de *lait* (21) ou de *vin* (22) un  
*océan* (23)  
 Coule dans l'*estomac* (24) d'un *gourmand* ;  
 (25)  
 Aussi vite qu'un *oiseau* (26) ou le *vent*, (27)  
 Notre cheval en *furibond*, (28)  
 Pour se venger de cet *affront* (29)  
 A l'*homme* (30) s'adressa ;  
 Et son *antagoniste* (31) lui nomma.  
 Oui, dit l'homme, mais un *mord*, (32) un  
*licou*, (33)  
 Il faut te mettre sur le cou.  
 Il n'aime point le licou,  
 Et il croit que le *frein*, (34)  
 N'a pas le bon *goût* (35)  
 De l'*herbage* (36) ou du *grain*, (37)

Néanmoins il part, et dans le *viandis* (38)  
 Il trouve son ennemi.  
 Plein de courage et de *fiel*, (39)  
 Comme l'*éclair*, (40) feu du ciel,  
 Ils s'élancent sur le tyran ;  
 Et le *chasseur* (41) mort l'étend.  
 Le cheval le remercie  
 Avec beaucoup d'*esprit* ; (42)  
 Et maintenant que j'ai mon *but*, (43)  
 Adieu ! dit-il ; mais l'homme l'arrête d'un  
*refus !* (44)  
 Non ! non ! mon pauvre fou,  
 J'ai *besoin* (45) de vous,  
 Dit le chasseur, et puis  
 Il l'entraîne au logis.  
 Ainsi l'*orgueil* (46) et l'outrage,  
 Furent punis dans le sanglier :  
 Et le cheval par un dur esclavage,  
 Paya cher le *plaisir* (47) de s'être vengé.

---

## NOTES TO THE FIRST MASCULINE FABLE.

1. *Sanglier*.—There are 643 nouns ending in *er*, all masculine except *la mer*, the sea, and *une cuiller*, a spoon. I recommend those learners who are advanced beyond childhood to fix all exceptions in the memory, by forming them into short sentences, after the manner of Feinagle, in

his "Art of Memory." For instance, they might say *the man who attempts to learn without method, is like one who tries to empty the sea with a spoon; vider la mer avec une cuiller.* After which it is scarcely possible that the words *mer* and *cuiller* could enter the mind, without being remembered as exceptions.

2. *Pouvoir.*—There are 144 words in *oir*, all masculine.

3. *Frais.*—24 in *ais*, all masculine.

4. *Bosquet.*—305 French nouns end in *et*: the only one feminine is *une forêt*, a forest.

5. *Hazard.*—83 in *ard*; are all masculine.

6. *Maraud.*—22 ending in *aud*, all masculine.

7. *Furieux.*—The learner will observe that this adjective is here used as a substantive. French adjectives are very frequently made substantives. There are 50 nouns in *eux*, all masculine.

8. *Malotru.*—There are 49 nouns in *u*, of which *glu*, birdlime, *tribu*, a tribe, and *vertu*, virtue, are feminine. *Bru*, a daughter-in-law, is feminine of course. Words which are masculines or feminines *absolute*, as designating males and females, it is not necessary to except particularly, as their gender must be immediately obvious.

9. *Rien*.—78 in *en*, all masculine.

10. *Roi*.—Of 24 in *oi*, *loi* and *foi*, law and faith, are the only feminines, except *paroi*, a wall, which is chiefly used in the plural.

11. *Maître*.—4 in *aitre*, masculine.

12. *Juin*.—1 in *uin*, masculine.

13. *Mai*.—17 in *ai*, all masculine.

14. *Mardi*.—There are 98 nouns in *i*, of which the feminines are *merci*, mercy, *fourmi*, an ant, and *l'après-midi*, the afternoon.

15. *Instant*.—123 in *ant*, many of which are participles converted into substantives: are all masculines.

16. *Mot*.—Of 102 in *ot*, the only feminine is *la dot*, the marriage portion.

17. *Dos*.—12 in *os*, all masculine.

18. *Fat*.—138 in *at*, all masculine.

19. *Cheval*.—69 in *al*, all masculine.

20. *Cas*.—68 in *as*, all masculine.

21. *Lait*.—15 in *ait*, all masculine.

22. *Vin*.—Of 239 in *in*, *fin*, the end, is the only feminine.

23. *Océan*.—95 in *an*, all masculine.

24. *Estomac*.—21 in *ac*, all masculine.

25. *Gourmand*.—13 in *and*, all masculine.

26. *Oiseau*.—Of 226 nouns in *au*, *peau*, the skin, and *eau*, water, are the only feminines.

27. *Vent*.—Of 719 nouns in *ent*, *gent*, a nation, and *dent*, a tooth, are the only feminines.

28. *Furibond*.—10 in *ond*, all masculine.

29. *Affront*.—6 in *ont*, all masculine.

30. *Homme*.—There are 13 in *omme*, of which *somme*, a sum, *gomme*, gum, and *pomme*, an apple, are feminine. *Somme*, a sleep or nap, is masculine.

31. *Antagoniste*.—Of 151 in *iste*, *piste*, a footstep, *batiste*, cambric, and *liste*, a list, are feminine.

32. *Mord*.—13 in *ord*, all masculine.

33. *Licou*.—41 in *ou*, all masculine.

34. *Frein*.—9 in *ein*, all masculine.

35. *Goût*.—23 in *out*, all masculine.

36. *Herbage*.—There are 374 nouns in *age*, of which the following are feminine: *rage*, *image*, an image, *page*, a page of a book, *cage*, a cage, *nage*, the act of sailing, *ambages*, doubtful expressions, and *passerage* and *saxifrage*, the names of plants. The two last are seldom used.

37. *Grain*.—Of 66 in *ain*, *la main*, the hand, is feminine: it takes its gender from the Latin *manus*.



38. *Viandis*.—Of 127 in *is*, *souris*, a mouse, *vis*, a screw, *brebis*, a sheep, and *fleur-de-lis*, are feminine; as are *Iris* and *Themis* of course, as females.

39. *Fiel*.—45 in *el*, all masculine.

40. *Eclair*.—17 in *air*, all masculine, except *la chair*, the flesh, which is derived from, and follows the Latin *caro*, *carnis*.

41. *Chasseur*.—As words of this ending occur very frequently, the learner must be quite perfect in this note. There are 1234 words in *eur*, all masculine but 67: but though the exceptions are so numerous, they may be learned in two minutes. Remember that, *except six*, all the masculine nouns in *eur* designate men in their actions or trade, and are derived from verbs, or Latin nouns in *or*, as *parleur*, *jaseur*, *acteur*, *lecteur*, &c. The six masculines in *eur*, which do not designate men, are *heur*, luck, and its compounds *bonheur*, *malheur*, with *honneur*, *déshonneur*, and *pleurs*, tears. Therefore, except the above *six*, whenever the learner meets with a word in *eur*, which expresses a living creature, he must remember it is masculine; and if it does not, it is feminine. The 67 feminines in *eur*, express properties and qualities, as *laideur*, ugliness, *hauteur*, height, *rougeur*, redness, &c.

42. *Esprit*.—44 in *it*, all masculine.

43. *But*.—22 in *ut*, all masculine.

44. *Refus*.—34 in *us*, all masculine.

45. *Besoin*.—15 in *oin*, all masculine.

The reader will observe that I could not well include *oin* in the rule of *in*, *ait* in the rule of *it*, &c., as, though the gender is the same, the pronounciation is so different that the memory would not easily refer *besoin* to *vin*, or *lait* to *esprit*.

46. *Orgueil*.—78 in *il*, all masculine.

47. *Plaisir*.—17 in *ir*, all masculine.

The learner will observe, that though in these fables a termination is sometimes repeated, yet none are to be found but such as give the rule, therefore the repetition will help rather than confuse the memory: thus, for a word in *ot*, or *age*, if *mot* and *herbage* do not instantly occur to the mind as the guiding word, *gigot* and *courage* very probably may: and so of the rest.

---

## SECOND MASCULINE FABLE.

*Which gives the Gender of 1470 Nouns.*

---

### LES DEUX MILITAIRES ET L'OURS.

Deux *fil*s (1) de *Mars* (2) frais et gaillards,  
Pour voyager prirent leur *départ*: (3)

Et firent entr'eux le *marché* (4)

De mutuellement s'assister.

Au déclin du *jour* (5)

Ils entendent un grand *bruit* ; (6)

Et hurlant un *ours* (7)

D'un *bois* (8) sortit.

Il vient droit à nos *militaires* ; (9)

Ils ne peuvent fuir, et que faire ?

Un d'eux léger et dispos,

Laisse son *compagnon* (10) seul ;

Et s'élançant d'un *saut*, (11)

Grimpe sur un *tilleul*. (12)

L'autre, qui toujours le *rosbif* (13) aima,

Et qui buvait comme un *Czar*, (14) ou un

*Bacha*, (15)

Et qui était aussi gras et gros

Qu'un *moine*, (16) ou qu'un *populo* : (17)

Dans un *sillon* (18) s'étendit,

Tout de son *long* ; (19) et le *mort* (20)

contrefit.

L'ours s'approche en *courroux* : (21)

Mais il manque son *coup* ; (22)

Car en lui flairant le *corps*, (23)

Il prend notre homme pour un mort.

Et comme aux *cadâvres* (24) il ne touche

pas,

Comme un *dogue* (25) grognant il s'en va.

Le *matamore* (26) de l'*arbre* (27) descendit.

Et demanda ce que l'ours avait dit ;

Car du haut dit-il j'ai observé  
Que de près il semblait te parler.  
Oui ! il m'a averti lui dit-il,  
Que celui qui déserte son ami,  
Dans le *temps* (28) du *péril* (29)  
N'est digne que de mépris.

---

## NOTES TO THE SECOND MASCULINE FABLE.

1. *Fils*.—There are 6 nouns in *ils*, all masculine.

2. *Mars*.—7 in *ars*, all masculine.

3. *Départ*.—Of 24 in *art*, *hart*, a *halter*, *part*, a *part*, and its compounds *quotepart* and *plupart* are the only feminines.

4. *Marché*.—The learner must take particular notice that nouns ending in *é* with the acute accent are to be divided into *two classes*: viz. 1st, those which end in *té*, as *bonté*, *beauté*, &c., and 2nd, those where the final *é* is preceded by some other letter than *t*, as *marché*, *curé*, *abbé*, *café*, &c. It is only with the latter class we have to do in this place, as *té* is a feminine ending, and is noticed in note 20 of the first feminine fable, at the word *beauté*.

Remember therefore that every one of the 347 words ending in *é* with the acute accent, not immediately preceded by *t*, is

*masculine*, except these 4 *feminines*, *pitié*, pity, *moitié*, moiety, *amitié*, friendship, and *inimitié*, hatred; which may be fixed in this sentence,—*C'est grande pitié quand un homme change l'amitié qu'il avait pour sa moitié en inimitié.*

5. *Jour*.—Of 28 in *our* and 6 in *ur*, all are masculine except *cour*, a court, and its compounds, and *tour*, a tower, a castle at chess. *Tour*, a turn, a trick, a turner's tool, is masculine.

6. *Bruit*.—Of 15 in *uit*, *nuit*, night, is the only feminine. *Minuit*, midnight, is masculine.

7. *Ours*.—There are 11 in *ours*, all masculine. S sounds in un *ours*.

8. *Bois*.—Of 23 in *ois*, the only feminine is *fois*, time.

9. *Militaire*.—There are 198 words in *aire*. They are all masculine except 11 names of plants, as *zedoaire*, &c., and *affaire*, business, *aire*, a floor, *glaire*, the white of an egg, *paire*, a pair, *grammaire*, grammar, *chaire*, a pulpit, and *jugulaire*, the jugular vein.

10. *Compagnon*.—As about one ninth part of the French substantives end in *on*, the learner must be very exact in their genders. They are subdivided into 4 classes,

—nouns in *ion* and *aion*, which belong to the feminines, and *illon* and *on*, which belong to the masculines. For *illon* see note 18 of this fable. Of those which end in *on* (without being in *ion*, *aion*, and *illon*) there are 405. These are all masculine except 4 designations of women, as *laideron*, &c., and the following, which I have formed into a sentence to help the memory : Cet homme en *pamoison*, qu'on entraine en *prison* avec des *maudissons*, a commis une *trahison*, car on l'envoya pour acheter du blé, dans la *moisson*, pour en fournir à *foison*, toute la *garnison* ; mais suivant sa *façon*, il dépensa tout en *boisson* et *chansons*. Il a vendu sa *toison* pour sa *rançon*. Cette *leçon* doit être sa *guérison*. The exceptions in *on* are in italics.

11. *Saut*.—14 in *aut*, all masculine.

12. *Tilleul*.—10 in *eul*, all masculine.

13. *Rosbif*.—Roast-beef. The French also say un *rosbif d'agneau*, a roasted quarter of lamb. There are 47 nouns in *if*, all masculine.

14. *Czar*.—9 in *ar*, all masculine.

15. *Bacha*.—The 65 nouns in *a* are all words adopted from other languages: they are all masculine, except *sépia*, *bandora*, *talpa*, *falaca*, and *vinula*.

16. *Moine*.—Of 12 in *oine*, all are masculine except the names of plants and stones.

17. *Populo*.—Of 43 in *o*, mostly borrowed from the Italian, the only exception is *virago*, which is feminine of course, as denoting a female.

18. *Sillon*.—44 in *illon*, all masculine without exception.

19. *Long*.—2 in *ong*, both masculine.

20. *Mort*, here means a dead man. *La mort*, death, is the only feminine of 21 in *ort*.

21. *Courroux*.—Of 9 in *oux*, *toux*, a cough, is the only feminine.

22. *Coup*.—5 in *oup*, all masculines.

23. *Corps*.—2 in *orps*, both masculine.

24. *Cadâvres*.—2 in *avre*, both masculine.

25. *Dogue*.—Of 26 in *ogue*, the only feminines are *drogue*, *eglogue*, *vogue*, *synagogue*, and *piroque*, a canoe.

26. *Matamore*.—Of 19 in *ore*, *mandragore*, *métaphore*, and *pécore*, are feminine.

27. *Arbre*.—3 in *arbre*, all masculine.

28. *Temps*.—3 in *emps*, all masculine.

29. *Péril*.—52 in *il*, all masculine without exception.

## THIRD MASCULINE FABLE.

*Which gives the Gender of 567 Nouns.*

---

L'AVIDE (1) trompé et puni.

A un *Arabe*, (2) *esclave* (3) à *Rome*, (4)  
on avait dit.

Que dans un *cénotaphe* (5) il y avait un  
*trésor*, (6).

Vers le minuit il s'y introduisit,  
Croyant y gagner un *kilogramme* (7) d'or.

Un sac de *cuir* (8) pesant il y trouva,  
Que tout joyeux il emporta :

Mais il trouva du *mécompte* (9) quand il  
l'examinait :

Car au lieu de l'or qu'il attendait,  
Il n'y trouve que *nombre* (10) de *Lares*  
(11) de *plomb* (12)

Et de *cuivre*, (13) auxquels les prêtres de  
Rome.

Des dieux des *âtres* (14) donnaient le *nom*  
(15)

Les *parens* (16) du *défunt* (17) informés  
du sacrilège

Entraînèrent le *coupable* (18) devant le  
*siège* (19)

Du *consul* (20) de Rome, des *juges* (21)  
un *prodige* (22)



Qui dit, le *bien-être* (23) du *public* (24)  
 exige  
 Que ce *vol* (25) *d'iconoclaste* (26) soit  
 puni ;  
 Et que *vingt* (27) coups de bâton soient le  
*prix* (28)  
 D'avoir méprisé *l'asile* (29) des morts.  
 Et les *emblèmes* (30) des dieux que Rome  
 adore.  
 Par le *travail* (31) du *ministre* (32) et du  
*disciple* (33) du droit  
 Le *bélitre* (34) souffre avec *stoïcisme* (35)  
 le chatiment de son *exploit* (36)  
 Et à ses compagnons dit de *sangfroid* (37)  
*Messires !* (38) avant de courir aucun *ris-*  
*que* (39) sachez pourquoi !



## NOTES TO THE THIRD MASCULINE FABLE.

1. *Avide*.—There are 38 nouns in *ide*: the feminines are *ride*, a wrinkle, *bride*, a bridle, *guide*, a rein, with *égide*, *pyramide*, and *cantharide*.

2. *Arabe*.—Of 12 in *abe*, all are masculine but *Souabe*, *Suabia*, and *syllabe*, a syllable. By a singularity, the compounds of *syllable*, as *monosyllable*, &c., are masculine.

3. *Esclave*.—Of 19 in *ave*, the feminines are *cave*, a cellar, *rave*, a raddish, with *oc-tave*, *bave*, *entraves*, and *épaves*, strayed animals.

4. *Rome*.—27 in *ome*, all masculine.

5. *Cénotaphe*.—Of 31 in *aphe*, all are masculine except *épigraphe*, *épitaphe*, *orthographe*.

6. *Trésor*.—12 in *or*, all masculine.

7. *Kilogramme*.—There are 19 nouns in *amme*; of which all that do not end in *gramme* are feminine, as are *anagramme* and *épigramme*.

8. *Cuir*.—1 in *uir*, masculine.

9. *Mécompte*.—7 in *ompte*, 2 in *omte*, all masculine.

10. *Nombre*.—9 in *ombre*, all masculine except *ombre*, shade.

11. *Lares*.—The *Lares* were, among the Romans, household gods, or gods of the fireside, where small metal images of them a few inches long were placed. They were so called from *lar*, home. Of 19 nouns in *are*, the feminines are *cithare*, *tare*, *fan-fare*, and *tiare*.

12. *Plomb*.—4 in *omb*, all masculine.

13. *Cuivre*.—Of 8 in *ivre*, *livre*, a pound-weight, is the only feminine. *Livre*, a book, is masculine.

14. *Atre*.—20 in *atre*, all masculine but *finâtre*, bad silk. 4 in *artre*, all masculine but *tartre*, a salt.

15. *Nom*.—7 in *om*, all masculine.

16. *Parens*.—11 in *ens*, all masculine.

17. *Défunt*.—3 in *unt*, all masculine.

18. *Coupable*. 20 in *able*, all masculine except *fable*, *table*, and *étable*.

19. *Siège*.—11 in *ège*, all masculine.

20. *Consul*.—8 in *ul*, all masculine.

21. *Juge*.—10 in *uge*, all masculine.

22. *Prodige*.—14 in *ige*, all masculine except *tige*, the body of a tree.

23. *Bien-être*.—Of 36 in *être*, *guêtre*, a gaiter, and *fenêtre*, a window, are the only feminines.

24. *Public*.—10 in *ic*, all masculine.

25. *Vol*.—19 in *ol*, all masculine.

26. *Iconoclaste*, from two Greek words, signifies a breaker and despiser of sacred images. Of 10 in *aste*, all are masculine except *caste*, a tribe, and *haste*, a dart, which follows the Latin *hasta*.

27. *Vingt*.—1 in *ingt*, as *le vingt de ce mois*, masculine.

28. *Prix*.—Of 11 in *ix*, *perdrix*, a partridge is the only feminine.

29. *Asile*.—I have taken a licence to call a cenotaph, "*asile des morts*:" but it

means an empty tomb. Of 24 in *ile*, the feminines are pile, virgile, île, bile, file, and their compounds. The learner must distinguish *ile*, from *ille*, which belongs to the feminines.

30. *Emblème*.—Of 36 in *ême*, brême, crême, and trirême are feminine, and a sequence at piquet, as la septième. When part or share is spoken of, the numerals become nouns masculine, as, un douzième, a twelfth part.

31. *Travail*.—24 in *ail*, all masculine, as are 6 in *astre*, 4 in *ustre* and 7 in *estre*, except orchestre.

32. *Ministre*.—5 in *istre*, all masculine, as are 6 in *astre*, 4 in *ustre*, and 7 in *estre*, except orchestre.

33. *Disciple*.—4 in *iple*, all masculine.

34. *Bélitre*.—Of 18 in *itre*, vitre, a window, épitre, mitre, and litre, are feminine.

35. *Stoïcisme*.—110 in *isme*, all masculine.

36. *Exploit*.—10 in *oit*, all masculine.

37. *Sangfroid*.—2 in *oid*, and 2 in *oids*, all masculine.

38. *Messires*.—20 in *ire*, all masculine except cire, satire, mire, ire, and Hégire.

39. *Risque*.—6 in *isque*, all masculine except bisque, an advantage, and brisque, a game at cards.

The pupil, having learned the three preceding fables by heart and read the notes with attention, will know the genders of 7747 masculine nouns. I will add two easy rules, which give 377 more, and there will then remain only a few masculines *in mute*, which, by those who wish to be very exact, may be learnt separately.

### RULE I.

There are 310 nouns WHICH END WITH A CONSONANT, and are of terminations *different* from all those given in the six fables. These 310 nouns are all *masculine*, except *faim*, hunger, *paix*, peace, *chaux*, lime, *clef*, a key, *mœurs*, manners, *soif*, thirst, *croix*, a cross, *noix*, a nut, *poix*, pitch, *voix*, the voice, and *La Toussaint*, All Saints' day. Remember, therefore, that the guide to this rule is *the final* letter being a consonant.

### RULE II.

There are 66 nouns of which the last vowel that sounds is a Y: these are all *masculine*, except a few words seldom used, viz. *hydre*, *clepsydre*, *idylle*, *sibylle*, *hymne*, *lymphe*, *nymphé*, *crypte*, *lyre*, *martyre*, *analyse*, and *améthyste*.

*Masculine Words in e mute not comprehended in the preceding rules.*

Un sabre, a sabre	Un tumulte, a tumult
Un candélabre, a chandelier	Un vestibule, hall
Le sacre, the consecration	Un scrupule, a doubt
Un acte, an act	Un pendule, a pendulum
Un pacte, a compact	Le crépuscule, twilight
Le diaphragme, the diaphragm	Un globule, a small globe
Un aigle, an eagle	Le sucre, sugar
Le vinaigre, vinegar	Un microscope, a microscope
Un glaive, a sword	Un télescope, a telescope
L'ambre, amber	Un soliloque, a soliloquy
Le blâme, reproof	Un divorce, a divorce
Un drame, a play	Un orme, an elm
Le camphre, camphor	Un poste, a post
Un cancre, a crab	Un pouce, a thumb
Le change, change	Un tube, a tube
Un mélange, a medly	Le coude, the elbow
Un angle, an angle	Le rouge, rouge
Le manque, want	Le comble, the height
Le chanvre, hemp	Un ongle, a nail, or claw
Un vacarme, an uproar	Un insecte, an insect
Un charme, a charm	Un dialecte, a dialect
Un cigarre, a cigar	Un spectre, a spectre
Un masque, a mask	Un remède, a remedy
Un casque, a helmet	Un cèdre, a cedar
Un asthme, an asthma	Un siècle, an age
Un saule, a willow	Le règne, reign
Un aune, an elder-tree	Un signe, a sign
Un royaume, a kingdom	Un labyrinthe, a labyrinth
Le baume, balme	Un philtre, a potion
Un psaume, a psalm	Un chiffre, a cypher
L'axe, the axis	Un trône, a throne
Le luxe, luxury	Un code, a code
Un buste, a bust	Un carosse, a carriage
Un muscle, a muscle	Un poëme, a poem
Un volume, a volume	Un coffre, a trunk
Un rhûme, a cold	Le linge, linen
Le costume, dress	Le bronze, bronze
Le culte, worship	Un vignoble, a vineyard
	Un cloître, a monastery.

These 78 nouns, with *all* those (31) ending in *acle, asme, uple, oxe* and *ordec*, complete the enumeration of the masculines, which amount to 8415, including 182 designations of men, ending in *e* mute, as *apôtre*, an apostle, *oncle*, an uncle, and the like, which I have omitted, as respecting their gender there can be no doubt.

**END OF THE MASCULINES.**

## FIRST FEMININE FABLE.

*Which gives the Gender of 4048 Nouns.*

---

### L'ATTENTE DÉÇUE.

Une jeune *fil*le (1) avait une *dou*zaine (2)  
De belles *tass*es (3) de porcelaine,  
Avec des *coup*es (4) et des petites *cruch*es,  
(5)  
Des *vent*ouses (6) et d'autres fanfreluches,  
Que sur sa *tête* (7) à la *vente*, (8)  
Portait la jolie *débit*ante. (9)  
Je les vendrai, dit-elle en *rêver*ie, (10)  
Et une *chance* (11) à la loterie  
Puis j'acheterais,  
Avec la *monnoie*. (12)  
Et de *certitude* (13) certaine, grande *fortu-*  
*ne* (14) je gagnerai  
Parceque la dernière lune je l'ai rêvé :  
Et riche alors et bien mise,  
J'aurai une *montre* (15) comme une *mar-*  
*quise*. (16)  
Donc j'irai à la *danse* (17)  
Et tous me feront la *révérence* (18)



Quelle *taille!* (19) dira-t-on, qu'elle *beauté!*  
 (20)  
 Et puis on me priera à danser.  
 Pleine de la vanité  
 De cette fausse *idée*, (21)  
 Elle secoua la tête, et tout-à-l'heure (22)  
 Arriva une terrible *mésaventure* : (23)  
 Cette *secousse* (24) détruisit la belle *créa-*  
*tion* (25)  
 De son imagination :  
 Sa marchandise est cassée à sa *vue* (26)  
 Et dans une *minute* (27) voilà sa *richesse*  
 (28) perdue.

---

## NOTES TO THE FIRST FEMININE FABLE.

1. *Fille*.—There are 99 nouns in *ille*, all feminine except *vaudeville*, a ballad, *mille*, a mile, *codicille*, *quadrille*, *spadille*, and *trille*.

2. *Douzaine*.—47 in *aine*, all feminine except *Le Maine*, a province of France, and *capitaine*, a masculine absolute.

3. *Tasse*.—48 in *asse*, all feminine but *Parnasse*.

4. *Coupes*.—13 in *oupe*, all feminine except *groupe*.

5. *Cruche*.—16 in *uche*, and 19 in *ouche*, all feminine except *baudruche*, a technical

word, piédouche, a pedestal, and 2 nouns denoting men.

6. *Ventouse*.—15 in *ouse*, all feminine.

7. *Tête*.—Of 30 nouns in *ête*, all are feminine except 6 compounds, as coupe-tête, &c., and the names of men, as prophète.

8. *Vente*.—35 in *ente*, all feminine except le trente, the 30th day of the month.

9. *Débitante*.—49 in *ante*, all feminine, except three names of men, and rossinante, a mean horse.

10. *Réverie*.—There are 715 nouns in *ie*, all feminine except génie, genius, incendie, a conflagration, 2 names of men, one word from the Greek, périhélie, and Le Messie, the Messiah.

11. *Chance*.—164 in *ance*, all feminine.

12. *Monnoie*.—14 in *oie*, all feminine except le foie, the liver.

13. *Certitude*.—47 in *ude*, all feminine except prélude. Most of these follow the gender of the Latin, being derived from nouns in *udo*.

14. *Fortune*.—23 in *une*, all feminine.

15. *Montre*.—8 in *ontre*, all feminine except le pour et le contre, pro and con.

16. *Marquise*.—49 in *ise*, all feminine.

17. *Danse*.—7 in *anse*, all feminine.

18. *Révérance*.—134 in *ence*, all feminine but *le silence*, *silence*.

19. *Taille*.—79 in *aille*, all feminine.

20. *Beauté*.—There are 512 nouns ending in *té*; they occur very frequently and are all feminine except a few, viz. *pâté*, *pie*, *côté*, *a side*, *le bénédicité*, *a prayer*, and a small number of names of men derived from participles, as *député*, *révolté*, &c.

21. *Idée*.—There are 271 nouns in *ée*, all feminine except *musée*, *a museum*, *trophée*, and a few words derived from the Greek, as *Hyménée*, *coryphée*, *scarabée*, &c., which are very rarely used.

22. *Heure*.—11 in *eure*, all feminine.

23. *Mésaventure*.—Of 305 nouns in *ur* all are feminine except *augure*, *parjure*, and *murmure*.

24. *Secousse*.—12 in *ousse*, all feminine.

25. *Création*.—Particular attention must be paid to nouns in *ion*, which amount to 1173. They are all feminine except 8 designations of males, and *pion*, *a pawn at chess*, *septentrion*, *the north*, *croupion*, *the rump*, *scorpion*, *a scorpion*, with *fanion*, *gabion*, *galion*, *talion*, and *trillion*.

26. *Vue*.—44 in *ue*, all feminine.

27. *Minute*.—13 in *ute*, and 14 in *out*

all feminine but parachute, and doute, doubt.

28. *Richesse*.—90 in *esse*, all feminine without exception.

---

## SECOND FEMININE FABLE.

*Which gives the Gender of 1451 Nouns.*

---

### LA JOLIE JULIENNE, LA TULIPE, ET LA ROSE.

*Julienne*, (1) *la rosière*, (2) *reine*, (3) de la fête,

Avec sa *couronne* (4) sur la tête,

De sa *conduite* (5) sans *tache* (6) digne *ré-compense*, (7)

Courait dans les allées s'échappant de la danse.

D'une *onde* (8) pure elle arrose.

Sa *favorite*, (9) sa chère *rose*. (10)

La *tulipe*, (11) de la rose voisine.

A la *jaunisse* (12) de jalousie faisant la *mine*, (13)

Par *pique* (14) dit à notre Héroïne,

Pourquoi, *Mademoiselle* (15) de grâce,

Faut-il que je cède la *place* (16)

A cette *rougeaude*, (17) cette *idole*, (18)

Dont tu sembles être *folle*? (19)

Pourquoi sans *rime* (20) ni *raison*, (21)

Perdrais-je à la comparaison ?  
 Dans ta *robe* (22) en *guirlande* (23) tu la  
 places ;  
 Ou dans tes *boucles* (24) tu l'enlaces.  
 N'ai-je pas une *excuse* (25) d'être en *colère*,  
 (26)  
 De te voir avec ma *rivale*, (27) cette *nabote*,  
 (28)  
 Et qu'à moi toujours on préfère  
 Cette *pimbèche*, (29) cette *sotte* ? (40)  
 Ne soit point en peine,  
 Reprit la *vierge* (31) reine :  
 Ne le prends pas en *grippe*. (32)  
 Jalouse tulipe :  
 Dans la gelée je te couvris de *natte*, (33)  
 Mais tu l'oublies *ingrate* ! (34)  
 Néanmoins sans adulation.  
 Tu mérites notre admiration :  
 Mais souviens-toi que la beauté extérieure  
 Cèdera toujours aux beautés intérieures.

---

## NOTES TO THE SECOND FEMININE FABLE.

1. *Julienne*.—There are 22 nouns in *enne*, all feminine.

2. *Rosière*.—Of 297 nouns ending in *ière*, all are feminine except *cimetière*. Words in *ère* are classed separately. At Salenci, in France, a young woman is an-

nually chosen “*queen of the rose*,” LA ROSIÈRE. This honour is conferred for super-eminent virtue and correctness of demeanour. The queen is crowned with a garland of roses on the 8th of June. Madame de Genlis has written a little play in which this pleasing and honourable ceremony is admirably described ; it is called *La Rosière de Salenci*.

3. *Reine*.—12 in *eine*, all feminine.

4. *Couronne*.—30 in *onne*, all feminine except *personne*, nobody. *Personne*, a person, is feminine.

5. *Conduite*.—12 in *uite*, all feminine.

6. *Tache*.—Of 30 nouns in *ache*, the only masculines are *gamaches*, gaiters, *panache*, a plume, *relâche*, relaxation, and 3 or 4 names of men, as *bravache*, a bully, &c.

7. *Récompense*.—8 in *ense*, all feminine.

8. *Onde*.—Of 14 in *onde*, the only masculine is *monde*, the world.

9. *Favorite*.—Of 40 in *ite*, all are feminine except the names of men, as *satellite*, *Aréopagite*, &c., and *mérite*, *démérite*, *gite*, *site*, and *rite*.

10. *Rose*.—15 in *ose*, all feminine.

11. *Tulipe*.—Of 12 in *ipe*, the only masculines are *participe* and *principe*.

12. *Jaunisse*.—14 in *isse*, all feminine.

13 *Mine*.—157 in *ine*, all feminine except le platine, platina.

14. *Pique*.—There are 116 nouns in *ique*. The masculine exceptions are 26 designations of men, as ecclésiastique, laïque &c. and portique, a portico, pique, at cards, topique, and tropique.

15. *Mademoiselle*.—Of 123 in *elle* the only masculines are libelle, a libel, vermicelle, vermicelli, isabelle, a colour, and violoncelle, a violoncello.

16. *Place*.—27 in *ace*, all feminine except espace, a space.

17. *Rougeaud*.—19 in *aude*, all feminine.

18. *Idole*.—Of 70 in *ole*, all are feminine except symbole, mole, a dyke, monopole, a monopoly, pôle, and rôle.

19. *Folle*.—12 in *olle*, all feminine.

20. *Rime*.—28 in *ime*, all feminine except régime, crime, centime, and dime.

21. *Raison*.—41 in *aision*, all feminine without exception.

22. *Robe*.—7 in *obe* and *obbe*, all feminine but lobe and globe.

23. *Guirlande*.—Of 37 in *ande*, the only masculine is le multiplicande.

24. *Boucle*.—3 in *oucle*, all feminine.

25. *Excuse*.—11 in *use*, all feminine.

26. *Colère*.—Of the 73 nouns in *ère*, the masculine exceptions are 7 designations of men, with *viscères*, *mystère*, *ministère*, *cautère*, *adultère*, *ulcère*, *cratère*, and a few words of very rare occurrence.

27. *Rivale*.—Of 50 in *ale*, and 12 in *alle*, all are feminine but *scandale*, *intervalle*, *ovale*, *pétale*, and the compounds of *balle*.

28. *Nabote*.—47 in *ote*, all feminine except the names of men, *antidote*, and *vote*.

29. *Pimbêche*.—17 in *êche*, all feminine but *prêche*, a sermon.

30. *Sotte*.—37 in *otte*, all feminine but *tirebotte*, a boot-jack.

31. *Vierge*.—11 in *erge*, all feminine but *cierge*, a taper.

32. *Grippe*.—4 in *ippe*, all feminine.

33. *Natte*.—11 in *atte*, all feminine.

34. *Ingrate*.—35 in *ate*, all feminine except the names of men, and *stigmaté*, which is used only when speaking of the marks of our Saviour's wounds.



## THIRD FEMININE FABLE.

Which gives the Gender of 1408 Nouns.

---

## LA VILLAGEOISE ET LA BELETTE.

Une *villageoise* (1) à force (2) d'*attrapes*, (3)  
Trouva, enfin dans sa *trappe* (4)

Une imprudente *belette*, (5)

Qui mangeait en *goinfrade* (6) ses poulettes.

En *phrase* (7) adroite la *captive* (8) dit,

O belle *paysanne* ! (9) épargne ma vie :

Me tuer serait grande *injustice*, (10)

Car des vermines je suis la destructrice,

Et de tes *poules* (11) la *sauvegarde* (12) et  
la protectrice.

Quelle *vergogne* ! (13) dit la fille, quelle  
*histoire* ! (14)

Je mourrais de *honte* (15) d'être si niaise,

Que de me laisser croître

De telles *fadaïses* ! (16)

Aux poules confiées à ma *charge* (17) tu  
fais la *guerre*, (18)

Aussi sur que plein de *sève*, (19)

Nourries de la *boue* (20) de la terre,

Les *branches* (21) d'une *citrouille*, (22) ou  
d'une *gadéle* (23) s'élèvent.

Si tu n'eusses pas usé de *feintes*, (24)

Je ne t'aurais point punie,

Mais je n'écoute plus tes *plaintes*, (25)

A *cause* (26) de ton hypocrisie.  
 Tu n'apportes dans ma *cabane* (27) que  
*plaies* (28) et *bosses* ; (29)  
 Et aussi sur que j'espère aller à mes *noces*,  
 (30)  
*Trompeuse*, (31) tu mourras ! et puis sur la  
 tête  
 Notre *béguéule* (32) avec une *mailloche*  
 (33) assomma la bête.

---

## NOTES TO THE THIRD FEMININE FABLE.

1. *Villageoise*.—There are 17 nouns in *oise*, and 2 in *oisse*, all feminine.

2. *Force*.—7 in *orce*, all feminine but divorce.

3. *Attrappe*.—14 in *ape*, all feminine but Pape, the Pope, a masculine absolute.

4. *Trappe*.—8 in *appe*, all feminine.

5. *Belette*.—Of 276 in *ette*, the only masculines are *amulette*, *squelette*, and 3 compound words, as *porte-mouchettes*, a snuffer-tray. The learner will observe that words compounded of a verb and a substantive are masculine, even though the noun be feminine, as *porte-lettre*, *tire-balle*, *casse-noisette*, &c.

6. *Goinfrade*.—Of 139 nouns in *ade*, *stade*, a stadium, is the only masculine.

7. *Phrase*.—Of 23 in *ase*, vase, gymnase, Pégase, and Caucase, are the only masculines.

8. *Captive*.—Of 43 in *ive*, all are feminine but *convive*: but we say, *Il faut être sur le qui-vive*, we must be on the alert.

9. *Paysanne*.—13 in *anne*, all feminine.

10. *Injustice*.—There are 142 in *ice*. The masculine exceptions are rather numerous, but may be easily fixed. Remember that except 6 all the feminines in *ice* designate *women*. These 6 feminines are *malice*, *milice*, *délices*, *notice*, *police*, and *premières*. Therefore, except these 6, when the learner meets with a noun in *ice* that does not name a female, he will know it to be masculine.

11. *Poule*.—13 in *oule*, all feminine but *moule*, a model.

12. *Sauvegarde*.—37 in *arde*, all feminine but *péricarde*.

13. *Vergogne*.—14 in *ogne*, all feminine but *Bourgogne*, Burgundy, where *vin*, is understood.

14. *Histoire*.—There are 80 words in *oire*. This is the most difficult ending in the language, as there are nearly as many masculines as feminines. The learner must remember that all places in which

any persons assemble are masculine, as réfectoire, a refectory ; all law and church terms are masculine, as offertoire, the offertory, petitoire, an action at law ; and the remaining masculines in *oire* must be committed to memory ; boire, ivoire, vomitoire, déboire, genitoires, purgatoire, territoire, and machicatoire.

15. *Honte*.—12 in *onte*, all feminine but conte, a story.

16. *Fadaise*.—15 in *aise*, all feminine except malaise, mésaise.

17. *Charge*.—8 in *arge*, all feminine ; but we say *le large*, the offering.

18. *Guerre*.—Of 12 in *erre*, the masculines are cimenterre, verre, parterre, and tonnerre.

19. *Sève*.—12 in *ève*, all feminine but rêve and élève. Elève is both masculine and feminine.

20. *Boue*.—23 in *oue*, all feminine.

21. *Branches*.—14 in *anche*, all feminine but Dimanche, and manche, a handle. Manche is feminine when it means a sleeve.

22. *Citrouille*.—18 in *ouille*, all feminine.

23. *Gadèle*.—Of 19 in *èle*, the masculines are zèle, modèle, parallèle, and infidèle.

24. *Feintes*.—12 in *einte*, all feminine.

25. *Plaintes*.—6 in *ainte*, all feminine.

26. *Cause*.—3 in *ause*, 3 in *ausse*, all feminine.

27. *Cabane*.—Of 50 nouns in *ane*, all are feminine but *âne*, an ass, *crâne*, the skull, *mânes*, ghosts; and *organe*, an organ.

28. *Plaie*.—49 in *aie*, all feminine without exception.

29. *Bosse*.—Of 12 in *osse*, the only masculines are *carrosse* and *colosse*.

30. *Noces*.—7 in *oce*, all feminine but *négoce* and *sacerdoce*.

31. *Trompeuse*.—There are 263 nouns in *euse*, all feminine without exception: they almost all designate females.

32. *Begueule*.—10 in *eule*, all feminine.

33. *Mailloche*.—There are 30 nouns in *oche*, all feminine but *proche*, *reproche*, *coche*, and *médianoche*.

The pupil having learned thus far, will have fixed in the memory the genders of 6907 feminine nouns. There remain about 220 more, which I could not introduce: many of these are designations of females, as, *une dagorne*, a shrew, *veuve*, a widow, *femme*, a woman, *sage-femme*, a midwife,

and the like, the gender of which is instantly obvious. The rest are added in the following list:—

*Feminine words in e mute not comprehended in the preceding rules.*

Une liene, a league	Une orange, an orange
Une queue, a tail	Les louanges, praises
Une meute, a pack of hounds	Une huppe, a tuft
Une preuve, a proof	Une perruque, a peruque
Une œuvre, a deed	La lutte, wrestling
Unemancœuvre, a mancœuvre	Une hutte, a hut
Une fièvre, a fever	Une fugue, a fugue
Une lèvre, a lip	L'huile, oil
Une bible, a bible	Une tuile, a tile
Une fibre, a fibre	Une huitre, an oyster
Une affiche, a placard	Une couple, a couple
Une corniche, a cornice	Une source, a source
Une miche, a roll	Une bourse, a purse
Une niche, a niche	La douane, the custom-house.
Des bribes, scraps	La bourbe, mud
Des besicles, spectacles	La fourbe, deceit
Une ferme, a farm	Les annonces, the banns
Une citerne, a cistern	La provende, provender
Une lanterne, a lantern	Une légende, a legend
Une caserne, barracks	Une amende, a fine
La gouverne, direction	La tempe, the temple
Une giberne, a cartridge-box	Une larme, a tear
Une serpe, a bill-hook	Une alarme, an alarm
Une controverse, a controversy	Les armes, weapons
La perte, loss	Une harpe, a harp
L'alerte, alarm	Une carpe, a carp
Une découverte, a discovery	Une remarque, a remark
Des conserves, preserves	Une barque, a bark
Des verbes, whims	L'ame, the soul
Une drachme, a dram	Une cellule, a cell
	La cuticule, the cuticle
	La mule, the Pope's slipper
	Une pilule, a pill

Une cataracte, a cataract	Un virgule, a comma
L'épacte, the epacte	Une peninsule, a peninsula
Une montagne, a mountain	Une pendule, a clock
La campagne, the country	La sauge, sage
Une châtaigne, a chesnut	L'ébène, ebony
Une bague, a ring	Une scène, a scene
Une vague, a wave	Une bibliothèque, a library
Une aile, a wing	Une valve, a valve
Une défaite, a defeat	La lèpre, leprosy
Une retraite, a retreat	Les vêpres, vespers
Les Alpes, the Alps	Une guêpe, a wasp
Une jupe, a petticoat	Une goutte, a drop
La fresque, fresco	Une boîte, a box
Une horloge, a clock	La pointe, the point
Une loge, a lodge	Une bombe, a bomb
La pompe, pump	Une colombe, a dove
La moëlle, marrow	Une tombe, a monument
Une tourte, a fruit pie	La peste a plague
La fange, dirt	Une veste, a waistcoat
La frenge, fringe	Les cendres, ashes
Une grange, a barn	Une réponse, an answer.

These nouns, with all those in *èse*, *arte*, *ourde*, and *ampe*, 28 in number, added to some female designations, and a few words seldom used, complete the feminine list which amounts to 7,133. This number added to the masculines, 8415, will give the total amount of the French nouns, 15,548, a calculation which I believe agrees as nearly as possible with those made by the French grammarians.

As soon as the learner has committed the six fables to memory, he ought to exercise himself in the *application* of them. This may be done by his teacher taking a dictionary and calling the nouns, while the

pupil, as each word is called, refers it in his memory to the guiding-word in the fable, and answers as to the gender. A very little practice will enable him to refer in a moment to a word in the fables that ends like the word he wants to know the gender of. For instance, suppose the word asked him be *haleine*, the breath, his memory will refer it to *reine*, or *peine*, and as these words occur in the fable about the *queen of the rose, a female*, he will know at once that *haleine* is feminine.

Gibier, game, he would refer to *sanglier* ; métal, to *cheval* ; enfance and esperance to *chance* ; gravité, to *beauté* ; fente to *attente* ; carquois to *bois*, and so of the rest.

The following list comprehends all those nouns which the French make masculine in one signification and feminine in another. I should recommend students who have made some progress in the language, to copy them all, three or four times, as the surest means of impressing them on the memory.

Une aide, help

Un aide, an assistant, as aide-de-camp

Un aigle, an eagle



- L'aigle Impériale, a standard  
 L'aise, comfort, ease, *fem.*  
 Le malaise, discomfort  
 Un aune, an alder-tree  
 Une aune, an ell-measure  
 Un barbe, a Barbary horse  
 Une barbe, a beard  
 Un barde, a bard  
 La barde, a slice of bacon roasted with a  
     fowl  
 Un basque, a Biscayan  
 Une basque, a skirt  
 Un berce, a bird  
 Une berce, a plant  
 Un braque, a setting-dog  
 Les braques, *fem.*, the claws of shell-fish  
 La caraque, cocoa  
 Une caraque, a carrack, a kind of ship  
 Le carpe, the wrist  
 Une carpe, a carp  
 Un cartouche, an ornament in designing  
 Une cartouche, a cartridge  
 Un coche, a waggon, a passage-boat  
 Une coche, an old sow  
 Le connétable, the Lord High Constable  
     of France  
 La connétable, his lady  
 Un couple, a man and his wife  
 Une couple, a pair, a brace

- Le chrême, or crème, consecrated oil  
 Le crème de tartre, a drug  
 La crème, cream  
 Un critique, a critic  
 Une critique, a criticism  
 Une dame, a lady  
 Le dame dame, a sort of cheese  
 Le double, a duplicate, twice the value  
 La double, the second stomach of a ruminating animal  
 Un enseigne, an ensign, an officer  
 Une enseigne, a flag, a token  
 Un exemple, a precedent  
 Une exemple, a writing-copy, a pattern  
 Le faux, falsehood  
 La faux, a scythe  
 Le follicule, the gall-bladder  
 La follicule, the seed-vessel in plants  
 Un foudre, a tun-vessel, a wine-butt  
 Un foudre de guerre, a thunderbolt of war,  
     a great warrior  
 Une foudre, a thunderbolt  
 La foudre de Dieu, the wrath of God  
 Un fourbe, a swindler  
 La fourbe, knavery, deceit  
 Un garde, a guardsman  
 Une garde, a defence  
 Le greffe, a register  
 La greffe, a graft

- Les gueules, gules, in heraldry, *mas.*  
 La gueule, the jaws of a beast  
 Un guide, a guide  
 Une guide, a rein  
 Le haut-payé, a soldier in extra pay  
 La haute-payé, extra pay  
 Un héliotrope, a sunflower  
 Une heliotrope, a spotted precious stone  
 Un hymne, a chaunt of the ancients  
 Une hymne, a Christian hymn  
 Un iris, a rainbow  
 Une iris, the circle round the pupil of the  
     eye  
 Les Larves, *mas.*, evil spirits  
 La larve, a worm or grub  
 Une ligne, a line  
 Un interligne, a space between lines  
 Un litre, a measure for liquids  
 Une litre, mourning hangings used in  
     churches  
 Un livre, a book  
 Une livre, a pound-weight, a piece of money  
 Un manche, a handle  
 Une manche, a sleeve, the channel  
 Un martyre, a martyrdom  
 Une martyre, a female martyr  
 Un matamore, a boaster  
 Une matamore, a slave prison  
 Un mémoire, a bill, a memoir

- La mémoire, the memory  
 Un mire, a bar 5 years old  
 Une mire, an aim, the button at the muzzle  
     of a gun to take aim by  
 Un mode, a mood, accident  
 La mode, fashion, custom  
 Un mole, a pier, a mole, a dyke  
 Une mole, a tympany, a false idea  
 La mort, death  
 Un mort, a corpse, a dead man  
 Un moufle, a pulley, a set of pullies  
 Une moufle, a mitten  
 Un moule, a model, a pattern, an example  
 Une moule, a muscle, a shell-fish  
 Un mousse, a ship-boy  
 La mousse, moss, froth  
 Un novice, a novice, a cabin-boy  
 Une novice, a female preparing to take  
     the veil, a nun expectant  
 Une nuit, a night  
 Une malenuit, a restless night  
 Le minuit, midnight  
 Le grand œuvre, the philosopher's stone  
 Un œuvre, a literary work  
 Les hors d'œuvre, *mas.* small ragouts, side  
     dishes  
 Un œuvre, an action, a work, a deed  
 Un ombre, a sort of fish like the salmon  
 L'ombre, *mas.* a game at cards

- Une ombre, a shadow, a ghost  
 Les ombres, *mas.* is applied to uninvited  
 visitors introduced to a feast in ancient  
 Rome, by the invited guests  
 Un orgue, an organ  
 Les orgues, *fem.* a pair of organs  
 L'orge, *fem.* barley  
 L'orge mondé, peeled barley  
 Un page, a page, an attendant  
 Une page, a page in a book  
 Un paillasse, a theatrical clown  
 Une paillasse, a mattrass  
 Un palme, a measure of length  
 Une palme, an advantage  
 Un panache, a plume  
 Une penache, a pea-hen  
 Un pantomime, a pantomine player  
 Une pantomime, a pantomine  
 Un parallèle, a comparison  
 Une parallèle, a parallel-line  
 Le passe passe, juggling  
 Une passe, a pass in fencing, a hen-sparrow  
 Un pendule, a pendulum  
 Une pendule, a clock  
 Le période, the height  
 La période, an epoch, a period  
 Personne, *mas.* nobody  
 Une personne, a person  
 Un pique, a spade at cards

- Un pique nique, a pic-nic, a party where  
each contributes provisions
- Une pique, a spear, a quarrel.
- Un pivoine, a kind of snipe, a gnat-snapper
- La pivoine, peony, a plant
- Un plane, a plane-tree
- Une plane, a plane, a carpenter's tool
- Le platine, platina, a metal
- La platine, the plate to which a watch-  
movement is fastened, a copper plate
- Un plinthe, a squared body of soldiers
- Une plinthe, a plinth, in architecture
- Un poêle, a stove, a coffin-pall
- Une poêle, a frying-pan
- Un Polacre, a Polish gentleman
- Une polacre, a polacca, a vessel in common  
use in the Mediterranean
- Le ponte, punto, one who gambles
- La ponte, the laying of eggs
- Un poste, a station, a situation, office
- La poste, the post-office, the mail, travel-  
ling post
- Le poupre, purple, the purples, or spotted  
fever
- La pourpre, used figuratively for the power  
and dignity of a king, pope, cardinal,  
&c.,
- Un prétexte, a pretence, a pretext
- La prétexte, an ancient Roman dress

- Un pupille, a male pupil  
 Une pupille, the apple of the eye, a female  
     pupil  
 Un régale, an organ-pipe  
 La régale, the holding a vacant bishopric  
 Le relâche, relaxation  
 Une relâche, the touching at a sea-port  
 Un remise, a glass coach.  
 Une remise, a coach-house  
 Le serpentaire, a constellation  
 La serpentaire, dragon-wort  
 Le sinople, vert in haraldry, a chalk  
 La sinople, anemony, a flower  
 Le solde, payment, balance of an account  
 La solde, the pay of a soldier.  
 Un somme, a sleep, a nap  
 Une somme, a sum of money, a load  
 Un souris, a smile  
 Une souris, a mouse  
 Une syllable, a syllable  
 Un monosyllable, a monosyllable  
 Un Polysyllable, a pollysyllable  
 La terre, the earth  
 Le terre à terre, short leaps of a horse  
 Le rezterre, a surface even with the ground  
 La tête, the head  
 Un tête à tête, a tete-a-tete  
 Un torse, a torso, a mutilated statue  
 Une torse, a turner's tool

Un triomphe, a triumph, victory

Une triomphe, a trump-card, a game at  
cards

Un trompette, a trumpeter

Une trompette, a trumpet

Le vague, empty space

La vague, a wave

Un vis-à-vis, a carriage

Une vis, a screw

Un voile, a veil, a cover

Une voile, a sail





IN THE PRESS,

*To be published in the Spring of 1860:*

# LOVELL'S GENERAL GEOGRAPHY.

---

BY

J. GEORGE HODGINS, M.A.

---

*Embellished with about 40 superior Maps and 100 beautiful Engravings.*

---

This GEOGRAPHY, while it is designed to furnish a satisfactory *resumée* of the Geographical knowledge of all parts of the world, will give equal prominence to the BRITISH COLONIES, concerning which such meagre information is generally found in works of this kind. It is designed and will be a suitable Text-Book for children in CANADA, NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, NEWFOUNDLAND, PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND, the EAST and WEST INDIES, AUSTRALIA, &c.

The Maps and Wood-Cuts are now in course of preparation, and every effort will be made to expedite publication. The work will, at the latest, be in the Bookstores in the Spring of 1860.

**PRICE \$1.**

*A liberal discount will be allowed to the Trade and to Country Merchants.*

JOHN LOVELL, *Publisher.*

IN PREPARATION:

EASY LESSONS

IN

GENERAL GEOGRAPHY,

FOR THE USE

OF

YOUNGER PUPILS;

BEING INTRODUCTORY TO

Lovell's General Geography.

TO BE

*Embellished with Maps and Illustrations.*

---

BY

J. GEORGE HODGINS, M.A.

---

JOHN LOVELL, *Publisher.*

LOVELL'S SERIES OF SCHOOL BOOKS.

---

IN PREPARATION:

A SCHOOL

HISTORY

OF CANADA,

AND OF THE OTHER

BRITISH

PROVINCES.

WITH

ILLUSTRATIONS.

---

BY

J. GEORGE HODGINS, M.A.

---

JOHN LOVELL, *Publisher.*

JUST PUBLISHED :

OUTLINES  
OF  
CHRONOLOGY,  
FOR THE USE  
OF  
SCHOOLS.

---

EDITED BY

MRS. GORDON.

---

JOHN LOVELL,  
*Publisher* }

CANADA DIRECTORY OFFICE,  
Montreal, August, 1859.

IN THE PRESS,

*To be published in October, 1859 :*

A

# TREATISE ON ARITHMETIC,

IN

THEORY AND PRACTICE;

**REVISED, IMPROVED, & ADAPTED**

TO THE

**DECIMAL CURRENCY,**

&c., &c.

---

BY

J. H. SANGSTER.

---

This work will be on Sale in the Bookstores  
throughout Canada.

JOHN LOVELL, *Publisher.*

IN PREPARATION :

FIRST BOOK

OF

ARITHMETIC,

IN

DECIMAL

CURRENCY,

&c., &c.

---

BY

J. H. SANGSTER.

---

JOHN LOVELL, *Publisher.*

**A NEW SPELLING-BOOK.**

---

IN THE PRESS,

*To be published in October, 1859 :*

THE

CLASSICAL ENGLISH  
**SPELLING-BOOK ;**

IN WHICH

THE HITHERTO DIFFICULT ART OF ORTHOGRAPHY IS RENDERED EASY AND PLEASANT, AND SPEEDILY ACQUIRED.

*Comprising all the important*

**ROOT-WORDS FROM THE ANGLO-SAXON,  
THE LATIN, AND THE GREEK ;**

AND

*Several hundred Exercises in Derivations and in  
Verbal Distinctions.*

---

BY G. G. VASEY.

---

JOHN LOVELL, *Publisher.*



---

IN THE PRESS,

*To be published in October, 1859 :*

# GRAMMAR

## MADE EASY

TO THE

### CAPACITY OF CHILDREN ;

IN WHICH, BY PLEASANT EXERCISES, A KNOWLEDGE  
OF THE PARTS OF SPEECH IS EASILY ACQUIRED.

---

BY G. G. VASEY.

---

The above works will be prepared with great care, printed on good paper, and bound in the most substantial manner.

*A liberal discount will be allowed to the Trade and to Country Merchants.*

JOHN LOVELL,  
*Publisher.*

CANADA DIRECTORY OFFICE,  
Montreal, August, 1859.